



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of:

GROHMAN, MARTIN

Serial No. : 10/634,497

Filed: August 5, 2003

GROOVED DECKING BOARD

Docket No.: 34192

Confirmation No.: 8665

Group Art Unit No.: 3635

Examiner: Slack, Naoko

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.131

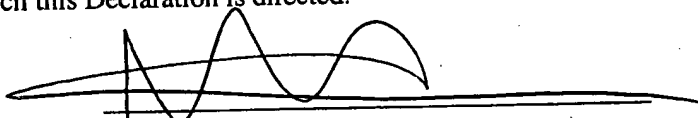
1. I, the inventor named in the above-referenced patent application, make this declaration to establish that I invented the claimed subject matter at a date prior to January 3, 2002. U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0123924 by Eberle, which was cited by the examiner in the first office action of the above-referenced patent application, was filed on January 3, 2002.

2. A drawing of the invention is attached as Exhibit A. The drawing shows two parallel boards within the scope of the board recited in independent claim 1, as each of the elements of claim 1 is shown in the drawing. The cross-sectional view shows each board with two similarly configured sides, each with an upper and lower lip. As described in claim 1, each board has a groove with the inner-most surface located between the upper and lower lips and with the upper lip extending further from the inner-most surface than the lower lip. This drawing is also within the scope of the deck system recited in independent claim 11 because it shows a system of parallel boards each containing the specifications of claim 1.

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3. The dates on Exhibit A have been blocked out. However, I declare that these dates are earlier than January 3, 2002 and they show I invented the claimed subject matter prior to January 3, 2002.

4. I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that statements made herein on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this Declaration is directed.

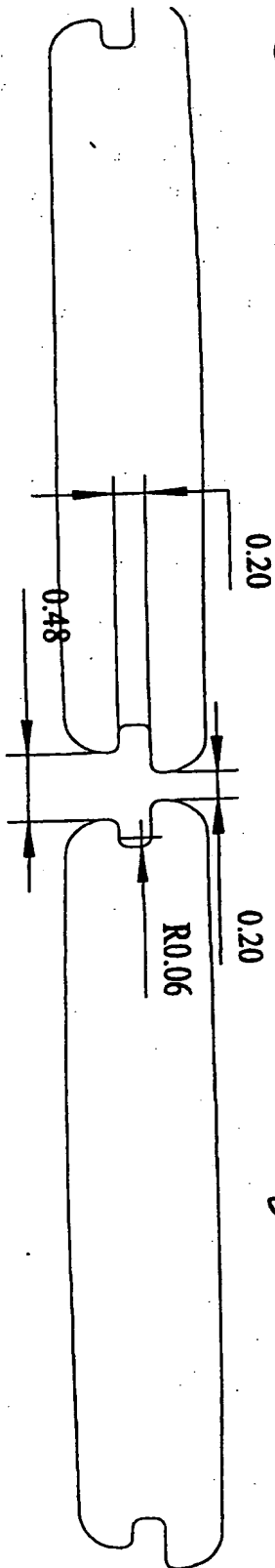
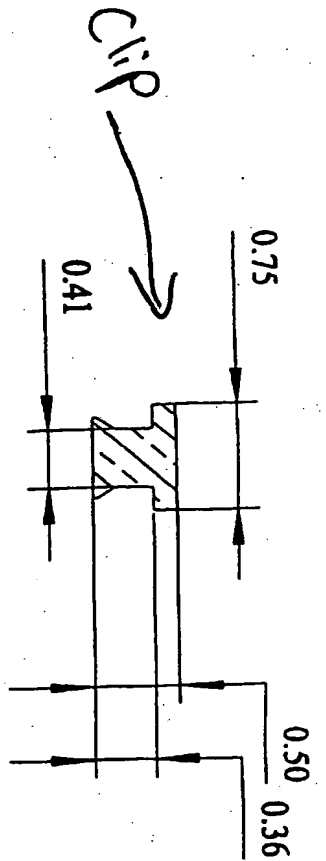


Martin Grohman

6-7-05
Date

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Correct Building Products Fifth & Final Die Section Outlet Detail With Groove for Hidden Fastener Ship to Poly-Plating Inc. for Poly-Ord		TITLE	
fastener	Modified for new	SIZE	CAGE CODE
Drawn by		DWG NO	1025-50-003
M Grohman		SCALE	SHEET

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